

# Concept of Operations Team Charter

## Problem Statement

We are working under a fundamentally flawed Concept of Operations (CONOPS), which has evolved without an agreed-to approach to the digital era, a problem that is being exacerbated by increasing budgetary pressures.

## Goals and Objectives

Develop an NWS-wide Concept of Operations that provides a concise description of the apportionment of all operational functions and tasks required for mission performance throughout the NWS, both CONUS and OCONUS.

The CONOPS must be based on sound scientific principles and technologies, resulting in an NWS that

- supports efficient production of a digital forecast database and deterministic and probabilistic products, delivered to a diverse user community;
- provides a wide spectrum of improved climate, weather and water services, with special emphasis on high-impact events.
- provides an infrastructure leveraged by NOAA to promote its goals
- works in partnership across the weather enterprise (all government, academic, and private sectors)
- delivers a full array of environmental services
- clearly addresses roles in observation, forecast, warning, and dissemination;
- has a resilient service delivery system, quickly adjusting to interruptions in support systems (e.g. communications, power) or facility damage
- ensures a flexible and agile organization that can address future needs;
- promotes organizational effectiveness and optimal use of resources across all levels, allowing employees to experience a high quality of work life.

## Scope

Guiding Principles:

- No degradation of service
- No reduction in number of offices

- Equitable services across the nation
- Cost effective
- Do not address grade structure, staffing levels, office size, org-chart
- Solicit input from the workforce in accordance with the CBA
- Test key features within 18 months

Must Address:

- Roles and responsibilities of WFOs, RFCs, CWSUs, National Centers
- Collaborative forecast process
- Digital services/grid production
- Observation, analysis, forecast and warning production, dissemination
- Possible redistribution of functions
- Opportunities for expansion of NOAA environmental services

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

Director:

- Chair reports directly to Director.
- All major problems will be resolved here if not before.
- Final approval authority for charge, charter, and team output.
- Maintains 51% of Board voting authority.
- Maintaining communication of progress w/ NOAA as appropriate.

Corporate Board:

- Remains intellectually engaged with Tiger Teams.
- Advisory role maintained mainly through the Team Champions.
- Available to team chairs for advice and/or resources if called upon.
- If first level supervisor to a team member, role is limited to advisor and to fully support (resources) as necessary.
- Upon delivery, role is to review/advise on delivery.

Champion:

- First Board level support to team chair and team.
- Liaison between Corporate Board and team chair.
- Help ensure resources are provided as necessary.
- Role limited to supporting/advising and enabling the team, not managing or directing
- Ensure three team's efforts are integrated.

Chair:

- Responsible for the Team, and final deliverables.
- Reports to the Director at pre-set intervals, between as necessary.
- Seeks advice from Champion.
- Communicates to the Board through the Champion, and through pre-set briefings.
- Ensure three team's efforts are integrated.

- Provides deliverables as scheduled.
- Solicits input from the field using COM office or other means.
- Has this task as their number 1 priority.

Tiger Team:

- Report to Chair.
- Works as a team with Chair to develop all deliverables.
- Has this task as their number 1 priority.

**Key Objectives and Timeline**

Key deliverable is a (draft) concept of operations delivered to the Corporate Board by December 16.

Calendar Year 06 demonstration project(s)